

## Message Text

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45

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

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R 261715Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9223

S E C R E T BRUSSELS 6824

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ENRG, XF

SUBJECT: BELGIAN INQUIRY ABOUT POSSIBLE COUNTER-  
MEASURES TO ARAB OIL DIPLOMACY

1. IN MEETING WITH CHARGE NOVEMBER 23 NOPPEN, CHEF DE CABINET FOR PRIME MINISTER LEBURTON, EXPRESSED INTEREST IN AMERICAN THINKING ABOUT WHETHER ARAB COUNTRIES MIGHT BE VULNERABLE TO ECONOMIC COUNTERACTION BY THE WEST. NOPPEN DOUBTED THAT WEST COULD SUCCESSFULLY APPLY PRESSURE ON THE ARABS TO MODERATE THEIR OIL POLICY. HE THOUGHT THAT LARGE NUMBER OF SUPPLIERS IN THE WEST OF COMMODITIES SOUGHT BY ARABS, COMBINED WITH HUGE ARAB FINANCIAL RESOURCES WOULD ENABLE THEM TO CIRCUMVENT ANY SUPPLY RESTRICTIONS. IN RESPONSE, WE REFERRED TO THE PERTINENT PARTS OF THE SECRETARY'S NEWS CONFERENCE OF NOVEMBER 21 AND LEFT TRANSCRIPT OF THE CONFERENCE WITH HIM.

2. COMMENT: IN THE SAME CONVERSATION NOPPEN HAD REFERRED TO AN ISRAELI EMBASSY APPROACH TO THE BELGIAN SOCIALIST LEADERS REGARDING ISRAELI POWS IN SYRIA (BRUSSELS 6801). IT IS POSSIBLE THAT HIS PONDERING ABOUT ECONOMIC COUNTER-MEASURES WAS ALSO STIMULATED BY THE ISRAELIS. ISRAELI DIPLOMATS HERE HAVE BEEN SPEAKING PRIVATELY IN FAVOR OF BOYCOTTS AND FREEZING OF ARAB ACCOUNTS. BOOCHEVER  
SECRET

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SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>



## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 11 MAY 1999  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN RELATIONS, PETROLEUM, POLICIES, POLITICAL SITUATION, COMMITTEE MEETINGS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 26 NOV 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** 11652 GDS  
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**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 06 SEP 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <06-Sep-2001 by rowellE0>; APPROVED <06-Nov-2001 by golinofr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, ENRG, XF, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005